

REMARKS

These remarks follow the order of the outstanding Office Action beginning at page 2 thereof. Re-examination of this application is respectfully requested in light of the amendments in the claims and the specification.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

Claims 1 and 2 have been amended to delete the term "short".

Claim 1, in reference to "hair-like transplanted sheet" has been amended to refer to "hair-like transplant" sheet. This is the hair-like transplant sheet having a parting agent generally known as reference numeral (5) in Figure 2A. It should be noted that the hair-like transplant sheet (5) is also referred to at page 11, as reference numeral (5). In the specification, "hair-like transplanted" has been changed to "hair-like transplant" in order to correct the English tense problem. In the specification it is clear that the hair-like transplant sheet (5) comprises the base sheet (2), the cohesive solvent layer (3) as well as the hair-like fiber layer (4) (see Figures 1 and 2).

The Examiner has taken the "hair-like transplanted" to mean a paper or non-woven fibrous sheet. Applicant respectfully submits that the claims as now drafted, and the specification clearly show that the hair referred to is not the same thing as paper or whatever the material of the base sheet may be.

Claim 1 has been objected to for use of the term "provisionally bonded". In response, Applicant has amended the specification at page 9 in order to make it clear that this is the fiber which is provisionally bonded to the base sheet (2) by the cohesive layer (3). This agrees with the rest of the wording at page 9, although the original wording at page 9 did not use the words "provisionally". Page 9 has also been amended to incorporate the original disclosure in the claims.

Claim 2 has been amended to correct the spelling of urethane.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

In this rejection, the Examiner has asserted that Tada teaches paper which is inherently contains fibers (see Office Action, page 4, lines 2 and 3). The claims as now amended require that the hair transplant sheet must have a base sheet (which is separate from a parting agent). The claim, in addition to the base sheet, requires a parting agent on which a short fiber layer is provisionally bonded with an acrylic solvent cohesive layer. If the base sheet is made of paper, it does not effect the fact that there is a another short fiber layer provisionally bonded. Stated another way, even if the base sheet (such as paper containing fibers) were present, the base sheet cannot be read the second time against a fiber layer which is placed on the parting agent as now claimed. Therefore, it is respectfully submitted that the claims as now drafted are not inherently rendered obvious by a base sheet containing fibers when it is fibers which are placed on the parting

agent, and the parting agent which is placed upon the base sheet.

Next, in the prior art, the Examiner has not addressed the problem of provisional bonding. The claim as the Examiner would read it with respect to the two fibers introduced by the base sheet would require the fibers to be provisionally bonded. This is clearly not the case with the prior art because the prior art requires removal of the base sheet which would include the very fibers the Examiner finds to be inherent in Applicant's claim.

In new claims 5 and 6, Applicant has made it very clear that it is the acrylic solvent adhesive layer and a parting agent on which a short fiber layer is provisionally bonded which is placed onto the base sheet. This language clearly excludes the inherent possibility of the fibers being from the base sheet which is again separate and distinct from the fiber layer as claimed in claims 5 and 6. The prior art base sheet paper fibers are never transferred.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that the application is now in condition for allowance, and early action in accordance thereof is requested. In the event there is any

reason why the application cannot be allowed in this current condition, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner contact the undersigned at the number listed below to resolve any problems by Interview or Examiner's Amendment.

Respectfully submitted,



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